

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

In complete response to the outstanding Official Action of October 2, 2003, and the Advisory Action of December 19, 2003, on the above-identified application, reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 1-10, and 16-25 remain in this application. Claims 11-15 have been cancelled. Claim 25 has been added.

Claim 25 combines the elements of Claim 1 and the currently cancelled Claim 15, to better define the invention.

Allowable Subject Matter:

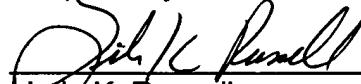
Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that Claims 1-10 and 16-25 are free of the prior art.

CONCLUSION

In view of the current amendments, the present application now stands in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone call would expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda K. Russell

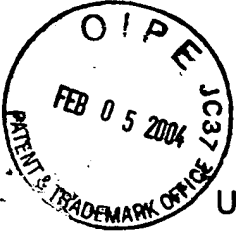
Registration No. 34,918

Date: February 2, 2004
Air Liquide
2700 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1800
Houston, Texas 77056
(713) 624-8956 Phone
(713) 624-8950 Fax

Application No. 09/824,765

Amendment dated February 2, 2004

Reply to Office Action of October 2, 2003 and Advisory Action of December 19, 2003



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 2nd day of February, 2004.



Stacy Forte